



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0040; FRL – 10022-60-OAR]

Proposed Agency Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Servicing of Motor Vehicle Air Conditioners (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), “Servicing of Motor Vehicle Air Conditioners (Renewal)” (EPA ICR No. 1617.10, OMB Control No. 2060-0247) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through December 31, 2021. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0040, online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by email to a-and-r-docket@epa.gov.

Out of an abundance of caution for members of the public and our staff, the EPA Docket Center and Reading Room are closed to the public, with limited exceptions, to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. Our Docket Center staff will continue to provide remote customer service via email, phone, and webform. We encourage the public to submit comments via <https://www.regulations.gov> or email, as there may be a delay in processing mail and faxes.

Hand deliveries and couriers may be received by scheduled appointment only. For further

information on EPA Docket Center services and the current status, please visit us online at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chenise Farquharson, Stratospheric Protection Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs (Mail Code 6205T), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-7768; email address: farquharson.chenise@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The EPA is temporarily suspending its Docket Center and Reading Room for public visitors, with limited exceptions, to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. Our Docket Center staff will continue to provide remote customer service via email, phone, and webform. We encourage the public to submit comments via <https://www.regulations.gov> or email, as there may be a delay in processing mail and faxes. Hand deliveries and couriers may be received by scheduled appointment only. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202-566-1744. For further information on EPA Docket Center services and the current status, please visit us online at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it to: (i) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (ii) evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

and (iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval. At that time, EPA will issue another Federal Register notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

Abstract: Section 609 of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (Act) provides general guidelines for the servicing of motor vehicle air conditioners (MVACs). It states that “no person repairing or servicing motor vehicles for consideration may perform any service on a motor vehicle air conditioner involving the refrigerant for such air conditioner without properly using approved refrigerant recycling equipment and no such person may perform such service unless such person has been properly trained and certified.” In 1992, EPA developed regulations under section 609 that were published in 57 FR 31240 and codified at 40 CFR Subpart B (Section 82.30 et seq.). The information required to be collected under the section 609 regulations is: approved refrigerant handling equipment; approved independent standards testing organizations; technician training and certification; and certification, reporting and recordkeeping.

Form Numbers: None.

Respondents/affected entities: The following is a list of NAICS codes for organizations potentially affected by the information requirements covered under this ICR. It is meant to include any establishment that may service or maintain motor vehicle air conditioners.

- 4411 Automobile Dealers
- 4413 Automotive Parts, Accessories, and Tire Stores
- 44711 Gasoline Stations with Convenience Stores
- 8111 Automotive Repair and Maintenance
- 811198 All Other Automotive Repair and Maintenance

Other affected groups include independent standards testing organizations and organizations with technician certification programs.

Respondent's obligation to respond: Mandatory (40 CFR 82.36, 82.38, 82.40, 82.42).

Estimated number of respondents: 46,033 (per year).

Frequency of response: On occasion, biennially, only once.

Total estimated burden: 4,165 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

Total estimated cost: \$ 213,153 (per year), includes \$0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in Estimates: There is an increase of 35 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This increase is due in part to an increase in the number of motor vehicle establishments in the United States. This correlates with an increase in the number of establishments that send refrigerants off-site for recycling or reclamation.

Cynthia A. Newberg,

Director,

Stratospheric Protection Division.

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